

Message Text

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21

ACTION AID-05

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 NEA-09 ISO-00 IGA-01 L-02 EB-07 CIAE-00

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P R 101325Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2201

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

UNCLAS KUWAIT 0669

DEPARTMENT PASS AID/SER/H

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID KU

SUBJECT: REIMBURSABLE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: NATIONAL HOUSING
AUTHORITY

REF: (A) KUWAIT 602 (B) STATE 28918 (C) STATE 28923 (D) STATE 29216

1. BROUGHT REFTELS B, C AND D TO DAKHEEL'S ATTENTION FEBRUARY 9.
DAKHEEL APPROVES NOMINATION OF TERZO (REF D). HE REQUESTS THAT
DETAILED BIOS OF BOTH TERZO AND SUNDERLAND BE PROVIDED,
PREFERABLY WITH RTA-2 CONTRACT, FOR NHA'S RECORDS.

2. DAKHEEL HAD FOLLOWING COMMENTS RE RTA-3 (REF C). RE PARA
2(1), DAKHEEL SAID "PERIOD NOT TO EXCEED SIX MONTHS" NOT FULLY
CONSISTENT WITH PARA D OF ATTACHMENT TO KIMM LETTER. HE STRESSED
URGENCY OF HAVING STUDY AND ASKED WHETHER SECOND SENTENCE OF
PARA 2(1) COULD BE CHANGED TO READ QUOTE: A.I.D. WILL PERFORM
THE STUDY IN FOUR MONTHS BUT WILL USE ITS BEST EFFORTS TO PERFORM
THE STUDY WITHIN THREE MONTHS PLUS ONE WEEK FOR DISCUSSIONS
WITH THE CONSULTANT IN KUWAIT. UNQUOTE. DAKHEEL SAID SUCH LANGUAGE
WOULD AVOID PROBLEMS HE MAY ENCOUNTER WITH TOK AUDIT BUREAU.

3. DAKHEEL SAID HE CULD NOT RPT NOT ACCEPT PARA 6, NOR WERE WE
ABLE TO COME TO AN AGREEMENT ON POSSIBLE COMPROMISE LANGUAGE.
DAKHEEL'S PROBLEM IS BASED ON ASSUMPTION GOK WILL PAY IN FULL
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FOR RTA-3 IN ADVANCE (THEREBY COMPLETING ITS PART OF CONTRACT)

BUT UNDER PARA 6 LANGUAGE AID CAN WITHDRAW AT ANY TIME, CLAIMING EXPENSES BUT NOT RPT NOT REQUIRED TO PROVIDE ANYTHING. DAKHEEL SAID THAT ONLY COMPLETED STUDY WOULD BE OF ANY USE. HE FEELS THEREFORE THAT AID IS ASKING FOR UNFAIR ESCAPE CLAUSE THAT WOULD LEAVE NHA HIGH AND DRY IF EVER IMPLEMENTED. HE WISHES TO HAVE PARA 6 REMOVED.

4. HE ALSO WISHES TO HAVE PARA B OF ATTACHMENT REMOVED, ALTHOUGH HE HAS NO SUBSTANTIVE PROBLEM WITH IT. RATHER HE IS CONCERNED THAT IT MAY CAUSE PROBLEMS WITH AUDIT OR LEGAL AUTHORITIES WHO WILL HAVE TO APPROVE DOCUMENT. DAKHEEL ACCEPTS IN PRINCIPLE SUBSTANCE OF PARA B OF ATTACHMENT, AND HIS REQUEST TO HAVE IT DELETED HAS TO DO WITH HIS DESIRE TO HAVE IT APPROVED QUICKLY WITHIN GOK. ASSUMING PARA B IS DELETED, PARENTHETICAL PHRASE IN LINE 1 OF PARA C SHOULD ALSO BE DELETED.

5. COMMENT: EMBASSY HOPES PARA 6 OF RTA-3 CAN BE ELIMINATED. WE TEND TO SHARE DAKHEEL'S VIEW THAT IF NHA MAKES FULL PAYMENT IN ADVANCE IT WILL HAVE FULFILLED ITS PART OF BARGAIN WHILE GAINING NO ASSURANCE THAT AID WILL PERFORM ITS OBLIGATIONS. WE URGE, THEREFORE, THAT PARA 6 BE DROPPED. SIMILARLY, WE HOPE PARA 4 CAN ALSO BE ELIMINATED FOR REASONS CITED BY DAKHEEL. HIS ACCEPTANCE IN PRINCIPLE OF SUBSTANCE OF PARA B AS REPORTED ABOVE DOES PROVIDE SOME RECORD OF HIS VIEWS SHOULD THAT BE REQUIRES LATER.

6. IN SEPARATE DEVELOPMENT AID HOUSING OFFICE LIKELY TO BE INTERESTED IN CREATION OF MINISTRY OF HOUSING IN NEW KUWAITI CABINET FORMED AFTER RECENT PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS. MINISTER IS HAMAD MUBARRAK AL-AYYAR, WHO WAS MINISTER SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND LABOR IN OUTGOING CABINET. NEW MINISTRY WILL OVERSEE NHA AS WELL AS HOUSING PROGRAMS FORMERLY ADMINISTERED SEPARATELY BY MINISTRIES OF FINANCE AND OIL, SOCIAL AFFAIRS AND LABOR AND PUBLIC WORKS AS WELL AS HOUSING ACTIVITIES OF SAVINGS AND CREDIT BANK. DAKHEEL SAID NEW MINISTRY OF HOUSING SHOULD NOT RPT NOT HAVE ANY AFFECT ON NHA-AID ACTIVITIES.
STOLTZFUS

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